
Campus Planning and Finance Council

Minutes of 19 September 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Campus Planning and Finance Council was called to order at 3:06 p.m. on 19 September 2023 via Webex video conferencing by Geoffrey Lindenberg, chair.

Members Present: Cheryl Bruey, Betty Dennis, Brett Geier, LuMarie Guth, Colleen Scarff, David Dakin, Mohammad Daneshvar Kakhki, Lynne Heasley, Valerian Kwigizile, Geoffrey Lindenberg, Melissa Rajter, Tyler Smith, Jan Van Der Kley

Members Absent: Todd Barkman

Advisory Members Present: Christopher Cheatham

Advisory Members Absent: Tony Proudfoot

Ex Officio: John Jellies

Quorum

A quorum was present with 14 members in attendance, of the 10 needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Bruey, seconded by Geier, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Kwigizile, seconded by Bruey, to approve the 16 May 2023 minutes as amended. With five abstentions, the motion carried.

Campus Planning and Finance Council 2023-24 Charges

Ex Officio Jellies presented the 2023-24 CPFC charges.

Reports of Officers

Chair Lindenberg did not provide a report.

Ex Officio Jellies did not provide a report.

Election of Officers

Heasley self-nominated for vice chair.

[MOTION] It was moved by Bruey, seconded by Guth, to elect Heasley for vice chair. With one abstention, the motion carried.

Reports of University Representatives

Scarff reported that the fiscal year 2024 budget was approved. It will be available on 25 September. There was a 5% increase in state appropriations, which is higher than in recent years. Fall enrollment is higher than projected, according to the census. WMU received two special assessments from the state.

Van Der Kley reported that Standard & Poor's (S&P) will have a bond rating update next week. It is anticipated to remain the same.

Cheatham reported that the undergraduate headcount at census was down 3.6%, graduate headcount was up 7.2%, and total headcount was down 1.5%. Much of the graduate increase was driven by Michigan's "grow your own" initiative to provide training and education toward a teaching certificate. This has resulted in about 300 to 350 students. The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) headcount was up 30% as a result. Several other colleges also saw an increase in graduate enrollment, with an emphasis on master's programs. The first-year beginner class was down 5.5% from last year. New graduate students were up 31.5%. Both underrepresented minority and female graduate student enrollments are up 9% compared to last year. Retention for all classes was up with a notable 3.9 percentage points increase from 2022-23 for freshmen. Retention rates for Black or African American First Time in Any College (FTIAC) and Hispanic FTIAC students are up 3.1 percentage points and 3.9%, respectively. FTIAC students who identify as two or more races have a retention rate that is 11.7

percentage points higher than last year. Summer enrollment has improved since the May projection—the trend of students registering later has continued. The plan is to use Degree Works to target course offerings for summer. There was an increase in domestic undergraduate transfers this year. WMU continues to pursue updated and streamlined articulation agreements. There is a strong interest in graduate certificates, a potential market for recruitment. There was a discussion of the faculty research grant funds decrease this year. Factors of consideration included overspending in previous years and the language of the 2003 faculty senate Memorandum of Action. There is a discussion occurring on the Faculty Senate Executive Board on this topic, in coordination with the Research Policies Council.

Proudfoot did not report due to absence.

Dakin reported on the following projects:

1. The Student Center and Stadium Club are completed
2. Miller Auditorium Veranda (anticipated completion September 2023)
3. Hilltop Village Parking Structure (anticipated completion in August 2024)
4. Henry Hall renewal bids have been sent out (anticipated completion in August 2024)
5. Dalton Art Annex bid has been sent out (anticipated completion in summer 2024)
6. Women's basketball locker room (anticipated completion in October 2023)
7. Dunbar Hall (anticipated completion in January 2024)
8. Knauss Hall remains our number one priority in state appropriations
9. The Bernhard Center will be demolished in spring 2024

Pathways between the residence halls near Bernhard and the new student center are being studied. Arcadia Flats and student center spots are prioritized for spaces in the Hilltop Village Parking Structure. The time of need for space is under consideration.

Kwigizile left the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Smith left the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Lindenberg left the meeting at 4:21 p.m. Heasley presided as chair.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Vice Chair Heasley presented on the prospective charge related to sustainability. Jeff Spoelstra, Office for Sustainability Director, is interested in attending CPFC as a voting member, advisory member, or regular guest. The Office of Sustainability is strategic and relates to existing charges. This issue will be under Unfinished Business on the 17 October CPFC meeting agenda for discussion. Spoelstra will be invited as a guest.

Ex Officio Jellies recommended an agenda subcommittee comprised of the officers.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Bruey, seconded by Guth, to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Campus Planning and Finance Council will meet next on 17 October 2023 via Webex video conferencing at 3 p.m.

Approval

Submitted by LuMarie Guth, Secretary

Minutes approved on 17 October 2023.